

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

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R 121619Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2989

INFO SECDEF

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

CINCUSNAVEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T LONDON 10300

GENEVA FOR HARTMAN

SHAPE FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MPOL

SUBJECT: NATO EXERCISES IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

REF: USNMR SHAPE 091200Z AUG 74

1. KILLICK TODAY ASKED US WHAT WAS US THINKING ABOUT  
FOUR NATO EXERCISES IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN SCHEDULED  
FOR THIS FALL. THESE ARE: DAMSEL FAIR; DEEP FURROW;  
BOSPHOROUS EXPRESS AND DUTY FAN; THE FIRST, DAMSEL FAIR,  
IS DUE TO START SEPTEMBER 16. THE MOD AND FCO HAVE BEEN  
REVIEWING BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN THESE NATO EXERCISES  
IN THE LIGHT OF EVENTS IN AND AROUND CYPRUS. THE BRITISH  
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VIEW IS THAT THESE EXERCISES SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE

CANCELLED UNLESS THERE IS A POLITICAL NEED TO DO SO. THEREFORE UK PLANNING IS GOING AHEAD. THE UK, KILLICK ADDED, WOULD BE RETICENT TO TAKE THE LEAD IN NATO TO CANCEL THE EXERCISES OR TO WITHDRAW UNILATERALLY. HOWEVER, HE MADE CLEAR THE BRITISH ARE CONCERNED ABOUT HOW TO PLAY IN NATO THE QUESTION OF GOING AHEAD OR CANCELLING. THEREFORE, KILLICK SAID, THE BRITISH WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING US VIEWS AND COORDINATING TACTICS PRIOR TO ANY NATO DISCUSSION. HE INDICATED HE WAS AWARE OF TURKISH ATTITUDE ON EXERCISING WITH GREEKS (REFTEL). THE OVER-RIDING BRITISH CONCERN IN REGARD TO THESE EXERCISES IS TO ENSURE THAT WHATEVER DECISION IS TAKEN THE LEAST POSSIBLE DAMAGE IS DONE TO NATO AND THE SOUTHERN FLANK.

2. KILLICK SAID THAT UK NATO WILL BE APPRISED OF LONDON'S THINKING ABOUT THE FOUR EXERCISES, AND US-UK PRIOR COORDINATION MIGHT TAKE PLACE IN BRUSSELS OR LONDON OR BOTH. HE HOPED THAT BRITISH MIGHT RECEIVE EARLY INDICATION OF OUR THINKING.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON WHAT WE MAY TELL KILLICK. SOHM

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NNN

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